

EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE
Background Information Document

FEBRUARY 2021

THE PROPOSED DEMOLITION,
ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS ON
ERF 309, BUSHMANS RIVER MOUTH,
NDLAMBE MUNICIPALITY IN THE
EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

DEDEAT REF:

REPORT PREPARED ON BEHALF OF: **MR BRAY**

Submitted in preparation for application for environmental authorisation in terms of Section 24(5)
of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, as amended 07 April 2017.



REPORT PREPARED BY: **HORT-COUTURE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS & PLANNING CC**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS

THE PROPOSED DEMOLITION, ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS ON ERF 309, BUSHMANS RIVER MOUTH, WITHIN THE NDLAMBE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The purpose of this document

A Background Information Document (BID) is an initiating document, which provides Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), including the relevant Competent Authorities (CA's), with relevant information about the proposed project, describes the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be followed, and to invites Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) to participate in the EIA process.

Project background

The Applicant, Mr. Bray, appointed Hort-Couture, as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), to undertake the relevant environmental studies to identify and assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project; and prepare the necessary Environmental Application for submission to the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT)

The proposed activities include the demolition of the existing structure and the development of a multi storey residential dwelling. The existing single storey dwelling has a floor area of approximately 200m², while the total estimated floor area on completion is expected to be approximately 600m². Building materials will consist of brick and mortar; steel; glass and timber. Power and water supply will be from existing bulk municipal supply, with additional augmentation from rain water tanks. Effluent will be collected in a conservancy tank for removal and treatment by municipal services. The proposed activity will further adhere to all National Building Regulations and Local planning By-Laws.

Study area

The subject property is located on Erf 309 in Bushmans River Mouth. The GPS coordinates of the site are S 33° 41' 18.299" E 26° 39' 37.715".

The locality map below further indicate the position of the study area in relation to the immediate and broader geographical surrounding.



Figure 1 Location of the project in relation to the broader geographical surrounding.

EIA requirements

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No.107 of 1998) [NEMA] and associated EIA Regulations of 2017, an environmental authorization must be obtained from the relevant decision-making authority, the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), prior to the commencement of certain listed activities that may result in potential negative impacts on the environment.

The proposed project includes the following listed activities as per the latest Government Notices R.324, 325, 326 and 327 of 7 April 2017, which specifically indicate, which activities trigger an environmental assessment. The details of each listed activity are highlighted below and form the basis of the Basic Assessment Application.

GN R 327 (LISTING NOTICE 1):

Activity 17

Development—

- (iv) in front of a development setback; or
 - (v) if no development setback exists, within a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever is the greater;
- in respect of—
- (c) embankments;
 - (d) rock revetments or stabilising structures including stabilising walls; or
 - (e) infrastructure or structures with a development footprint of 50 square metres or more —

Activity 19A

The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from—

- (ii) the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the highwater mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater; or

Activity 54

The expansion of facilities—

- (iii) within the littoral active zone;
- (iv) in front of a development setback; or
- (v) if no development setback exists, within a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever is the greater;

in respect of—

- (e) infrastructure or structures where the development footprint is expanded by 50 square metres or more,

GN R 324 (LISTING NOTICE 3):

Activity 12

The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

a. Eastern Cape

iii. Within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from the high water mark of the sea, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas;

This is a preliminary list of activities and may be added to or excluded as the project proceeds.

Potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project

There may be several potential (positive or negative) environmental impacts as a result of the proposed project including but not limited to:

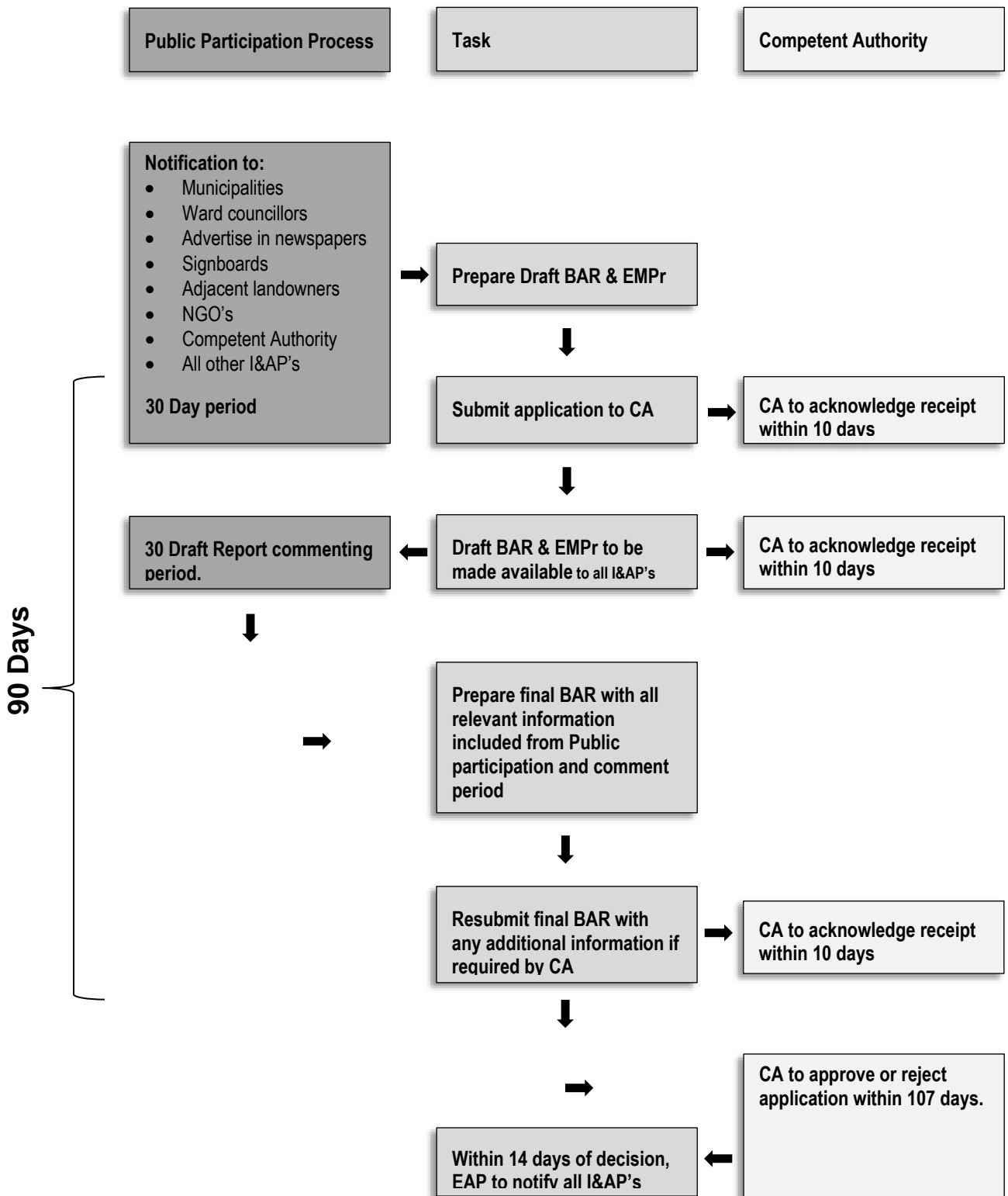
1. Damage to existing flora and vegetation by the construction process.
2. Excavation and removal of topsoil.
3. Potential disturbance to the Bushman's river estuary and process area.
4. Cumulative impacts of the proposed development on the environment.
5. Improper removal and discarding of building materials.
6. Potential spillage of hazardous materials on the site.
7. Creation of employment and socio economic upliftment.
8. Potential increase in crime from construction activities.
9. Visual impact of the proposed activity.
10. Increased concentration of storm water discharge.
11. Potential contamination of ground water.
12. Increased dust pollution.
13. Increase noise pollution.

The need for a Basic Assessment Process

The listed activities identified above triggers the need for a Basic Assessment process and may not commence without an environmental authorisation from DEDEAT. The aim of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to ensure that:

- The potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project are taken into consideration.
- Public Participation Process is conducted i.e. to afford any Interested and or Affected parties (I&AP) sufficient opportunity to provide comments.
- Sufficient information is provided to decision makers in order to ensure an informed decision making.

EIA Process



Acronyms:

BAR - Basic Assessment Report.
EMPr - Environmental Management Program.
CA - Competend Authority (DEDEAT).
I&AP - Interested & Affected Parties
PP - Public Participation.

Public Participation Process

It is important that all relevant I&AP's are identified and included in the public participation process from the outset of the project. The input received from I&AP's forms an integral part of the EIA process, and will assist the DEDEAT with their decision making role. To ensure effective public participation, the process includes the following steps:

- 1) Register as an I&AP and raise all comments and concerns regarding the proposed development.
- 2) Review the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and ensure that all relevant concerns and issues were dealt with.
- 3) Review Final Basic Assessment Report (FBAR) and ensure that all relevant concerns and issues were dealt with.
- 4) If I&AP's are not satisfied with the Record Of Decision (ROD), they may appeal the ROD.

Your Opportunity to Get Involved

As a registered I&AP your comments, concerns or queries raised regarding the project will be captured and addressed accordingly through the EIA process. The Application for Environmental Authorisation subject to Basic Assessment process will be run in accordance with the statutory requirements published in Government Notice R982 of 2014, as amended 07 April 2017, which is summarized in the EIA process above.

Should you have an interest in the project and wish to be further involved, you need to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) at the contact information below. You may also submit preliminary comments at this time, which will be taken into account when preparing the draft Basic Assessment Report. If you register as an I&AP, you will have another opportunity to submit comments once the draft Basic Assessment Report has been released for review.

Should you have any further queries or require further project information, or wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party, please contact:

Warren Lange

Email: warren@hortcouture.co.za

Phone: 046 624 1522